

We continue to work through the COVID-19 pandemic and I appreciate all the work that is getting done despite the challenging environment. There is a lot of discussion about easing restrictions and "getting back to normal," but those discussions are currently about HOW, and not WHEN, we will be able to reopen facilities and other public places. Public health officials will dictate those protocols and timelines and we will then

revisit operations and procedures. Health and safety will always come first for our employees and community. We did have another Zoom City Council meeting last night to take critical actions including an emergency order that was adopted to take extra precautions for the safety of our community.

FACE COVERINGS

The City Council approved an emergency order requiring face masks for customers visiting essential businesses within National City. Strict observation of protective measures are needed to combat the COVID-19 virus and "flatten the curve." The emergency order is HERE and will go into effect midnight tonight. Please continue to wear face coverings when you are out performing duties in the community. We need to lead by example and keep National City safe.

MID-YEAR 2020 BUDGET

The City Council approved the mid-year budget last night that makes necessary changes to the current 2020 budget so we can continue to pay bills and provide services. We began the conversation of the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Fortunately, we have diligently built up operating reserves so we can work through this challenge without taking drastic action until the economy can be more fully assessed.

PRELIMINARY 2021 BUDGET

We will hold a budget workshop with the City Council on April 28 at 4 pm. We will present the preliminary Fiscal Year 2020/21 budget, and receive direction from the City Council. I will provide the City Council a thorough update of the fiscal health of the city. I will present short-term cost saving measures and discuss long term contingency plans as we organize recovery efforts and analyze the total impacts of the pandemic on our budget and city operations.

In May, I plan to connect with all departments and facilitate an open dialogue regarding the budget, answer your questions, and discuss your budget ideas. Now more than ever we need to bring creative approaches to the budget process in order to address revenues shortfalls we will experience due to COVID-19. There is still an opportunity to submit your budget ideas to CMO@nationalcityca.gov if you would like them to be considered.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY

Today is Administrative Professionals Day and I would like to thank all the men and women who support our City operations through their hard work, tireless effort and enthusiasm that keep our offices and this City running smoothly. You are a huge part of our success, so thank you for all that you do!

CORPORAL COLLEEN STANICH

Our very own Corporal Colleen Stanich of the Police Department was featured on News 8's #SendtheLove Campaign for sewing face coverings for local health care professionals and public safety officials. The City Council honored her last night for going the extra mile to protect the National City community not only during her "day job" at the Police Department, but by making masks to protect the greater community. Thank you Corporal Stanich! You can view a clip of the News 8 segment online HERE.